

# COPY

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Joseph A. FERNANDO et al Docket No.: UNF-9058  
Serial No: 09/038,243 Examiner: H. Tran  
Filed: March 11, 1998 Group Art Unit: 1764  
Title: SUPPORT ELEMENT FOR FRAGILE STRUCTURES SUCH AS  
CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

jc530 U.S. PTO  
09/560469  
04/28/00



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE, PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R.  
§1.136(a) TO MAINTAIN PARENT CASE THAT IS TO BE ABANDONED WHEN  
FILING A CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION CLAIMING ITS BENEFIT.**

Applicants, through their Attorney, respectfully respond to the Office Action mailed on October 28, 1999 as follows.

**REMARKS**

1. The response in this case is a bona fide attempt by the Applicants to respond to the Office Action mailed on October 28, 1999, and to advance the present application to final action. The present response comprises a separately filed:

Continuation Application  
 Continuation-in-part (CIP) Application  
 Continued Prosecution Application (CPA)

A copy of this response and petition for extension of time is being filed with the papers constituting the filing of the separately filed Continuation-in-part (CIP) Application.

2. This is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time to respond to

the Office Action mailed on October 28, 1999.  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

**Certificate of Express Mailing**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail - Label No. EL493656910US - "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Laura A. Rafn  
(type or print name of person signing paper)

Laura A. Rafn  
(signature of person mailing paper)

4-28-00  
(date)

3. Please abandon this application conditioned upon the granting of the petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) and the granting of a filing date of the separately filed continuation-in-part application, so as to make the continuation-in-part application copending with this application.

4. Applicant is:

a small entity.

The statement:

is enclosed.

is already filed in the parent application. This status is still proper and its benefit under 37 C.F.R. §1.28(a) is hereby claimed.

other than a small entity.

5. Extension of Time Requested

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) apply.

(a) Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)  
(fees: 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(1)-(4)) for the total number of months checked below.)

<u>Extension (months)</u>	<u>Fee for other than Small Entity</u>	<u>Fee for Small Entity</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> one month	\$110.00	\$55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> two months	\$380.00	\$190.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> three months	\$870.00	\$435.00
<input type="checkbox"/> four months	\$1,360.00	\$680.00
<input type="checkbox"/> five months	\$1,850.00	\$925.00

Fee: \$435.00

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

An extension for \_\_\_\_\_ months has already been secured and the fee paid therefor of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

Extension fee due with this request \$435.00

OR

(b)  Applicants believe that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicants have inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

6. Fee Payment

Attached is a check in the amount of \$435.00.

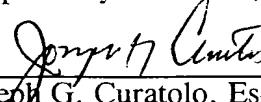
Charge Deposit Account No. 18-0987 the sum of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

7. Fee Deficiency

**Authorization to Charge Deposit Account**

In the event an additional fee is applicable to the filing of this document and the required fee is not enclosed, or the fee submitted is insufficient, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which might be required to effect the filing of this (these) document(s) to Account No. 18-0987. This authorization is being submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney for Applicant  
4-28-2000  
Date